

MINUTES
OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26, 2001

WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA

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MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The telephone meeting of the Environmental Protection Commission was called to order by Vice Chairperson Murphy at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2001, in the Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa.

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Braun
Lisa Davis Cook
Lori Glanzman
Darrell Hanson
Kathryn Murphy, Vice-Chair
Kelly Tobin
Rita Venner, Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Priebe
Terrance Townsend, Chair

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Lisa Davis Cook to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Lori Glanzman. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jeff Vonk said the budget that the Commission has in front of them is a reflection of the Department working to restore the cuts that they received in the current 02 budget. These were one-time fixes that the legislature had made, such as the taking of the Water Quality Protection Fund, that money has to be restored otherwise the program will be bankrupt. This budget was developed prior to the announcement from the Governor directing the Department to find an additional 1.2 million dollars out of the General Fund appropriations for the current year. He said this request will go to the Governor's office and will most certainly be refined and adjusted, and those adjustments would most likely be in the form of reductions based on the State revenue picture. He said the destination park appropriation is based on an estimate that was given to the Department by a professional consulting firm as to what the needs would be for the State investment to move the destination park process forward. He said the lake restoration program fund is in essence bankrupt because all of the funds to date have been obligated, therefore the Department is asking for four million in funding for that program. The budget cuts that the Department will be dealing with in this current fiscal year and in fiscal year 03 are reflected in the General Fund appropriations.

Kelly Tobin asked Jeff what his priorities were.

Jeff Vonk said coming into this fiscal year the Parks operations have already taken a half million dollar cut out of the general fund. The Environmental Protection Division is \$150,000 short compared to the previous years so there have already been some cuts in General Fund for operations for those two divisions. He said the Department is also well underway in looking at reorganization. His priorities will be that he will do the best he can do to integrate where the budget cuts are taken with the process that is underway for restructuring the Department. Therefore the cuts that are required for this fiscal year will not be handled as an across the board cut for all divisions at the same seven percent. He said his priorities would be to make the Department more efficient and to continue to deliver the best service as a Department. He asked all the Division Administrators to perform a prioritization process of current responsibilities that they have as a result of code, rules, and regulations, which will be part of a package that will go forward to the legislature asking them to remove the low priority responsibilities.

Rita Venner asked if the Department was going to ask for any money for the Waste Tire Program.

Jeff Vonk said because the program sunsets the Department is not asking for additional funding but he said he expects the Department to work with the Legislature to develop a maintenance program.

FY03 BUDGET – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Jeffrey Vonk, Director of the Department of Natural Resources presented the following item.

Attached is the department's proposed FY03 budget for your review and approval. This budget requires the approval of both the Natural Resource Commission and Environmental Protection Commission. Staff has just completed the final budget request and will be prepared to discuss and answer questions during the meeting. Rather than collect the commissioners for the meeting, arrangements will be made to do this over the telephone. Proper notice will be given prior to the meeting.

The attached information presents the General Fund appropriation request by division, and the total appropriation request by division. The second sheet of the attachment presents the FY03 Appropriation Request Summary.

Please review this information and be prepared to discuss during the meeting. Department staff will be present for explanations and answers to questions you may have.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FY 03 APPROPRIATION REQUEST SUMMARY**

APPROPRIATION NAME	FY02 BUDGET	FY03 REQUEST	\$CHANGE FY02 BUDGET OVER FY03 REQ
<u>GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS</u>			
Department Operations	\$17,055,117	\$18,628,723	\$1,573,606
Marine Fuel Tax Operations	\$411,311	\$411,311	\$0
Water Quality Protection Fund	\$0	\$729,000	\$729,000
Total General Fund Appropriation	\$17,466,428	\$19,769,034	\$2,302,606
<u>TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS</u>			
Destination Park	\$1,000,000	\$0	(\$1,000,000)
Restore the Outdoors	\$2,500,000	\$0	(\$2,500,000)
	\$3,500,000	\$0	(\$3,500,000)
<u>INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS</u>			
Destination Park	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Restore the Outdoors	\$0	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
	\$0	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000
Resource Enhancement and Protection	\$10,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$2,000,000
Marine Fuel Tax Capitals	\$2,300,000	\$2,300,000	\$0
Lake Restoration Program	\$500,000	\$4,000,000	\$3,500,000
Tree Planting Grants	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
Waste Tires	\$500,000	\$0	(\$500,000)
Water Quality Monitoring	\$2,500,000	\$3,000,000	\$500,000
Floodplain Permit Review	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$0
GIS Data for Watershed Managers	\$195,000	\$195,000	\$0
Keepers of the Land Volunteer Program	\$70,000	\$100,000	\$30,000
Water Quality Permit Review	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$0
Landforms and Ecosystems	\$125,000	\$0	(\$125,000)
Lewis and Clark Rural Water Supply	\$60,000	\$0	(\$60,000)
	\$16,860,000	\$22,205,000	\$5,345,000
<u>NON-GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS</u>			
Fish and Wildlife Operations	\$27,794,786	\$28,044,786	\$250,000
Fish and Wildlife Capitals	\$2,797,500	\$4,897,000	\$2,099,500
Groundwater	\$12,439,000	\$12,439,000	\$0
Oil Overcharge	\$430,000	\$200,000	(\$230,000)
UST Administration Match	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Snowmobile Transfer to Fish & Wildlife	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Boat Registration Transfer to Fish & Wildlife	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	\$0
Total Non General Fund Appropriations	\$45,036,286	\$47,155,786	\$2,119,500
TOTAL	\$82,862,714	\$96,629,820	\$13,767,106
TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL FTE	1063.12	1063.12	0.00

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
GENERAL FUND/TOTAL BUDGET**

APPROPRIATION NAME	FY02 BUDGET	FY03 REQUEST	TOTAL CHNGE OVER FY 02
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
Administration	\$2,209,715	\$2,283,321	\$73,606
Parks	\$6,398,891	\$7,048,891	\$650,000
Forestry	\$1,870,927	\$1,870,927	\$0
Energy/Geology	\$1,764,722	\$2,014,722	\$250,000
Environment	\$4,810,862	\$5,410,862	\$600,000
Marine Fuel Tax Operations	\$411,311	\$411,311	\$0
Water Quality Protection Fund	\$0	\$729,000	\$729,000
General Fund Total	\$17,466,428	\$19,769,034	\$2,302,606
Fish and Wildlife Total	\$27,794,786	\$28,044,786	\$250,000
<u>TOTAL BUDGET BY DIVISION</u>			
Administration	\$9,446,502	\$9,520,108	\$73,606
Parks	\$11,263,031	\$11,913,031	\$650,000
Forestry	\$3,971,804	\$3,971,804	\$0
Energy/Geology	\$5,859,921	\$5,859,921	\$0
Environment	\$24,910,776	\$24,910,776	\$0
Fish and Wildlife	\$25,659,552	\$25,909,552	\$250,000
Waste Management	\$4,999,947	\$4,926,341	(\$73,606)
Total	\$86,111,533	\$87,011,533	\$900,000

Jeff Vonk said the Commission has the ability as a commission to change any of the numbers as they see fit. The Department has prepared what he would term a dream budget for their consideration. The Commission has the responsibility to review the budget and to approve or alter and then send it forward to the Governor's Office.

Lisa Davis Cook asked if the Natural Resources Commission have any changes they wanted to make.

Jeff Vonk said no, there had been discussion on several of the items but no recommendations to change anything.

Lisa Davis Cook asked what full funding of REAP would be.

Jeff Vonk answered that it would be \$30,000,000.

Lisa Davis Cook said she would like to see REAP fully funded so that it could do what it was intended to do but she felt that asking for the same amount that was asked for the prior year was a good step.

Motion was made by Rita Venner to approve the budget as presented. Seconded by James Braun. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Brief discussion followed regarding the current economy and possible causes of the loss of revenues.

Brief discussion followed regarding the direction Jeff Vonk is taking toward the restructuring of the department

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Darrell Hanson to adjourn. Seconded by Kelly Tobin. Motion carried unanimously

With no further business to come before the Environmental Protection Commission, Vice Chairperson Murphy adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 26, 2001.

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director

Terrance Townsend, Chair

Rita Venner, Secretary

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